

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY Mongolian People's Republic/Korea

REPORT

SUBJECT Unsuitability of Mongolian Horses  
for use in North Korea

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
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Comment. On 19 January 1953, during a broadcast in Russian and Mongolian by the Ulan Bator radio, the following statement was made: "Horses that were sent as our gift for the Korean people proved to be of great use in the mountainous front."

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1. Mongolian horses would be inefficient and unsuitable in North Korea because they would have difficulty adapting themselves. These horses, used to grazing on the vast tracts of Outer Mongolia, would find it hard to acquire a taste for the husks of millet and rice they would get in Korea. A number of them would probably die of malnutrition before they became used to the new feed. After the salty water found in most of Mongolia, the horses would find the Korean water unpalatable and would be adversely affected. The climate would make them sick. They are used to the cold of Mongolia but not the heat and humidity of Korea. Furthermore, horses raised on the prairie or gently rolling land such as that found in most of Mongolia, generally have weak hoofs. Many of them would fall lame in mountainous terrain with its rocks and pebbles.
2. In general, Mongolian horses would be of little use in North Korea unless they are especially selected. Before they could be used for packing and pulling, at least one year's training would be needed.

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